

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT



**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**1961**



AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT

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A N N U A L   R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1961

To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district during the year 1961.

The statistics show that the Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population was not significantly different from the previous year. Likewise the birth rate was much the same as in 1960. There was an increase in infant deaths from one in 1960 to three in 1961. These three deaths were the result of severe congenital abnormalities which were incompatible with life. The stillbirth rate also increased in 1961; however with small overall figures this rise is not significant.

The death rate was 11.63 per 1,000 of the population in 1961. This is very similar to the national level. The principal causes of death were vascular lesions of the nervous system and heart disease, which accounted for nearly a half of all deaths. The percentage of deaths due to malignant disease was less than usual, in fact 7%.

Measles was by far the commonest infectious disease during the year when 79 cases were notified. Two cases of tuberculosis were notified, which was the same as the previous two years. These sporadic notifications of tuberculosis represent the hard core of the disease which has not, as yet, been eradicated. The only other notifications of infectious disease in 1961 were two instances of dysentery.

Vaccinations and immunisations against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis were actively practised during the year, resulting in a very high proportion of children being protected against these diseases. Over 90% of the infants in Amble have been protected against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, although only 50% have been vaccinated against smallpox. This figure could with advantage be raised.

The Public Health Inspector in his report states that 28 discretionary improvement grants were made during the year. It is satisfactory to observe that this useful aid to better housing was used during the year, although it is significant that 25 of these improvements were for owner/occupied property.

The time is coming when action must be taken to improve the housing of those living in sub-standard rented accommodation. Indeed, a recent circular from the Minister of Housing and Local Government gives clear powers to local authorities to enforce this.

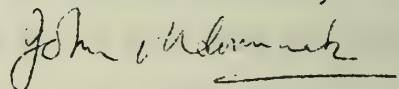
Attention was drawn in the 1960 report to the fact that there were still a number of earth closets in the Amble Urban District. During 1961 some of these were removed, but it is surely a small matter to clear the last of these medieval monstrosities from the district.

It is satisfactory to observe that the slaughterhouses in the district were all brought up to a very high standard of hygiene and efficiency during the year.

1961 saw the first complete year of the 1960 Caravan Act. The Council-owned site at Amble gave rise to no problems and is of sufficient size to justify its eventual development into a model holiday caravan site.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Clerk, and Mr. Rodgett and Mr. Nicholson, for their help and interest during the past year.

I am,  
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health



GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 1,220 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 1,661 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 12.

The rateable value was £43,090 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £175.

The estimated mid-year population was 4,900 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	51	43	94
Illegitimate	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
Totals	<u>54</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>97</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	19.79
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	21.17
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.09

Stillbirths

Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	39.60
Total live and still births	101

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)

Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	30.92
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	31.91
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>

Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births	30.92
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>

Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	20.61
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Perinatal Mortality Rate

Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	59.40
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	-

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	33	24	57
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population			11.63
Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor			12.09
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis			-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes			-
Deaths from Cancer			4

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
" " Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
" " Breast	-	1	1
" " Uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	-	-
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	7	5	12
Coronary Disease, Angina	5	2	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	-	-
Other Heart Disease	2	2	4
Other Circulatory Disease	1	3	4
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	6	2	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	6	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	-	2	2
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	<u>33</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>57</u>

INFANT MORTALITY

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>
Anencephaly	9 hours	Mona Taylor Maternity Home, Stannington
Hyaline Membrane, Prematurity	3 days	Hillcrest Maternity Home, Alnwick.
Spina Bifida	1 week	Hillcrest Maternity Home, Alnwick.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough	-
Diphtheria	-
Measles	79
Pneumonia	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	-
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-45	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table gives details of persons having received poliomyelitis vaccination from the commencement of the scheme in 1956 to 31st December, 1961.

North No. 1 and 2 Areas	
Age Group	Number of persons having received two injections
1 - 15	14,694
15 - 25	4,906
25 - 40	2,520
Over 40	200
Total .. ..	<u>22,320</u>

19,113 persons received third injections and 6,388 children aged between 5 and 12 years received fourth injections.

SMALLPOX VACCINATIONNorth No. 2 Area

Number vaccinated during period							Number revaccinated						
Districts	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total	
Alnwick U.D.	94	7	2	7	3	113	-	-	1	4	25	30	
Amble U.D.	47	6	4	2	2	61	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Alnwick R.D.	132	11	2	3	14	162	-	-	-	-	19	19	
Rothbury R.D.	70	2	1	2	-	75	-	-	-	2	5	7	
Totals	343	26	9	14	19	411	-	-	1	6	50	57	

IMMUNISATION

Primary Immunisation									Secondary (Reinforcing) Injs.								
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	27	1	39	
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	91	12	1	-	-	2	-	106	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	5	
Totals	91	12	1	-	-	3	-	107	-	2	2	-	12	27	1	44	

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY REPORTSResultsThroat Swabs

Haemolytic Streptococci	57
Coagulase Positive Staphylococci	11
Monilia	2
	<u>70</u>
Negative	57
Total number of specimens taken .. .. .	<u>127</u>

Faecal Specimens

Shigella sonnei	2
Negative	3
Total number of specimens taken .. .. .	<u>5</u>

THE SURVEYOR'S & PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DR. J. McCORMACK, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

SURVEYOR, PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR & WATER ENGINEER.MR. T.B. ADAMSON, M.A.P.H.I. (resigned 31.12.61)  
MR. J.A. RODGETT, M.A.P.H.I. (appointed 16.4.62)ASSISTANT SURVEYOR AND  
CARAVAN SITE MANAGER.

MR. A.E. NICHOLSON.

CLERK/TYPIST.

MISS D. GALLAUGHER.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit this annual report on the work carried out by the Department during 1961. Although my appointment was not effective until early in 1962, I have been able to review the work of 1961 as a year when many small, but important improvements were effected. A year of planning and negotiation for future policy particularly in relation to housing, water supply and caravan sites and finally a year of consolidation of previous developments. The ensuing two years (1962 & 1963) will bear testimony to the 1961 deliberations of a then new Council and its officials.

Major developments in the town were carried out by private developers in relation to housing and commerce, in the latter case, two further properties in Queen Street were modernised and this added to the gradual improvement of our main shopping area.

As each aspect of the Department's work appears later in this report under its respective heading, I would take this opportunity to comment on my hopes for the future of this Urban District. As a relative newcomer, I visualise that Amble can have a prosperous future both as a residential town and holiday resort. The latter is proved by the continued popularity of its caravan sites and ever increasing visitors whilst my former view is proven by the demand for new housing development where the tempo shows no sign of slacking.

To continue successfully needs a progressively-minded Council and an enthusiastic staff to carry out their policy, both of these I believe are possessed by Amble. Good teamwork all round can and will produce an Amble that we can all be proud to be associated with and I personally look forward to many years of service with this team.

In conclusion, I would thank the Council and staff (both office and outdoor) for their warm welcome and acts of kindness on my arrival and look keenly forward to the prospect of helping to make Amble one of the gems of the magnificent North East coast.

I am,

Mr. Chairman & Gentleman,

Your Obedient Servant,

J.A. RODGETT,

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector



9  
HOUSING.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1961.

New Houses completed during the year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	-	-	-
(b) By any other Housing Authority	-	-	-
(c) By private persons	-	12	12

Total number of inhabited Houses in District	1661
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	309

ACTION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

<u>Closing and Demolition</u>	<u>No. of Houses.</u>
1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas.	NIL
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas.	7
3. House closed, not demolished.	NIL
4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above.	NIL

Repairs.

Houses Made Fit.

5. By informal action.	24
6. By owners following statutory notice.	2
7. By Local Authority in default of owners.	NIL
8. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction.	NIL

Houses Patched.

9. Houses in clearance areas still in use at end of year for temporary accommodation.	NIL
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SLUM CLEARANCE.

Progress Report for Period ending 31st December, 1961.

1. Total number of unfit houses as originally estimated in 1955	100
2. Total number of unfit houses demolished since January, 1956	42
3. Estimated number of houses in the district remaining unfit for human habitation.	43



IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958  
as amended by.  
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

<u>A. DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.</u>	<u>No. of separate houses.</u>
1. Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	28
2. Applications rejected.	-
3. Applications approved	28
4. Approximate average grant approved per house	£212. 12. 10.
5. Total number of houses approved for grant in the area since inception of scheme.	137

HOUSING.

A Ministry allocation of 38 houses for the year enabled the Council to put into operation its 'houses for sale' and detailed discussions with the Homeville Company Limited, were entered upon so by the end of December, all was ready for the work to proceed early in 1962. Even at this stage, at least 50% of the houses to be built (i.e. 24 x 3 bedroomed, 6 x 2 bedroomed and 8 x 2 bedroomed bungalows) were 'spoken for' by prospective purchasers. The Housing Committee had meantime felt that more bungalow accommodation was needed on its estates in order to meet the demands of the growing number of elderly people and as a result, it was agreed that any Ministry allocation for 1962 should be used entirely for old people's bungalow accommodation.

The use of Discretionary Improvement Grants to modernise properties was again popular during the year and the total number of applications received was 28 of which all were approved at a cost of £5954. 0. 0. Of these approvals, 25 were for owner/occupied property and 3 for tenanted houses. Amble has a predominance of stone-built terraced houses, which invariably lend themselves to modernisation and some first class results have been obtained on completion of grant-aided work. It is felt that more owners with tenanted properties could make more use of the scheme and install modern amenities for provision is made in the Act for an owner to increase the rent by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of his share of the cost of improvements. The Council on their part could arrange a demonstration and/or talks to owners where all details could be made available.

Standard Grants have not met with the response in Amble that was originally anticipated but this may have been due to the ambiguity in Sections of the Act

dealing with existing facilities, especially W.C.'s in determining what is (or is not) contiguous to a house. Circular 29/62 published recently has helped to solve many of the initial problems and time will tell whether Standard Grants will be a success locally.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses within the Urban District.

#### CONVERSION TO WATER CLOSETS.

A further reduction in the number of earth closets was made during the year and 10 remained at 31st December. Of these, six formed part of an improvement scheme and the remaining four will, with the owners' co-operation be cleared by the end of 1962. The clearing of the last of these primitive systems will be eagerly awaited by both Councillors and Department officials who have spent much time in talking this problem.

#### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The whole Urban District is satisfactorily sewered and except for the few earth closets, all premises are on the water carriage system.

There are two main outlets to the sea which rarely give cause for complaint or produce evidence of foreshore pollution. The Links Estate outlet, which is composed partly of 9" spun concrete pipes and fireclay gave cause for anxiety on several occasions during the latter part of the year due to abnormally heavy seas breaking the concrete casing and fracturing the pipe. These breaches of the outlet pipe were dealt with without delay and the Council made provision in their estimates for 1962 for the renewal of the pipe in 12" cast iron.

Complaints of choked street gullies were, without fail, found to be due to delivery of loose concessionary coal in the streets, and until the Coal Board can deliver their coal in sacks, Amble's residents must be prepared to accept flooded footpaths after heavy rain. As per the Council's ruling, all choked drains were cleared free of charge both at private and business premises.

CARAVAN SITES.

1961 saw several minor, but non-the-less, important developments on the sites. Street lighting standards were erected along the Links and lighting was installed in the blocks of toilets. The conversion of a building at the Lord Mayor's Caravan Site into a Television Room was completed by mid-year and the vast number of holiday-makers using the Hall proved the popularity of this amenity. The Council felt that this was an opportunity to let caravan owners have some say in the organising of social and recreational functions and amenities and to this end, a meeting of all owners was called. From this meeting was elected a committee whose job was to organise social and recreational functions along with the Council through their representative, the Caravan Sites Manager. A further Hall was planned for 1962 which would be suitable for social evenings and general recreational events.

Four wardens were again employed on a rota basis, thus giving a seven-day service to holidaymakers. Refuse collection was collected daily during the peak period and twice weekly for the remainder of the season.

With a view to making Amble a better holiday resort, negotiations took place throughout the year to acquire Link House Farm, the aim being to lay out a large caravan site containing all modern amenities based on the model standards as suggested in the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Many setbacks and delays were encountered and no definite decisions had been arrived at by the end of the year.

Under the Act, one licence was issued during the year for use of land to station one caravan.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.

Three part-time employees were employed as park attendants, although with the retirement of one in July, the remaining two were able by working longer hours, to carry out the various duties of maintenance, supplemented by the Highways staff on occasions.

With the acquisition of a new "Gravelly" 6 H.P. grass cutter during the year, the programme of grass cutting at the park, caravan sites and open spaces was thoroughly tackled. I would recommend the Council to consider more mechanisation being introduced particularly in this respect, for the growing town continues to add further open spaces to its estates.



The Amble and Warkworth Round Table sought the Council's approval to the sponsoring by the Table of an Adventure Playground on the North Links. The Council fully endorsed this public-spirited scheme and decided that they on their part would prepare a landscaping and tree planting scheme for the remaining area. The County Planning Department's staff kindly prepared the layout together with a suggested future development of the Quarry and the Council gave approval in principle to the latter idea. Official Planning Consent was given late in the year and as soon as the Table have given their contribution, application for grant aid will be made and the work put out to tender.

#### STREET CLEANSING AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Once again I would ask the Council to consider mechanisation in relation to street sweeping. By means of a tractor and sweeper unit the many side streets, back lanes and housing estate roads could be swept weekly and the tractor of course would be fully utilised in other duties such as grass cutting, work on the tip and caravan sites.

At present two employees are engaged on street cleansing but it is necessary on occasions to utilise them for other duties on highway works, rodent control and refuse collection particularly during holiday times and sickness among the staff. Consequently their time is mainly spent on the cleansing of County Roads and the various side streets, estates and back lanes rarely receive attention.

As the town continues to receive more visitors, so the problem of litter increases, particularly during July and August. Although further litter bins have been provided throughout the town it is obvious that the public are just not litter conscious and the answer to the problem is one of two measures, either the employment of several street cleaners or ruthless use of the provisions of the litter Act, 1958. Publicity was fully given to the problem of litter by means of posters, whilst the Department prepared and entered a decorated tableau in the Carnival Week procession on a "Keep Britain Tidy" theme. In this respect, I am indebted to the Central Office of Information for all their help and supply of posters.

The two public conveniences which are available in the town, were cleansed twice daily but acts of vandalism accounted for the removal of coin-operated locks, breaking of toilet seats, and on one occasion, the complete destruction of a flushing cistern and ancillary pipework.

Despite these setbacks, a further convenience is planned for the Harbour Area in order to serve the many visitors and weekend fishermen but to date, five suggested sites have been considered and none of these have been approved either by the land owners or the planning authority.

#### STREET LIGHTING.

Street Lighting is by electricity using mercury vapour and tungsten lamps with a variety of lanterns and street furniture, brackets on steel poles, brackets on buildings and concrete standards.

Mercury Vapour	19	Lamp Renewals made during year.	
Tungsten	298	Mercury Vapour.	16
Total	<u>317</u>	Tungsten	<u>320</u>
		Total	<u>336</u>

The complete lighting system in Amble appears to be reaching the end of a hard working life. The majority of the steel columns carrying the boards supply cables and brackets are deteriorating at their bases causing concern from a safety point of view. The Electricity Board who own the columns are consequently removing the overhead network of cables and going underground. Consequently a scheme for the provision of new street lighting columns and lanterns in many parts of the town will be one of the programmes for consideration in the forthcoming year. While costly it is necessary and the subsequent removal of unsightly overhead lines will be an improvement also. New street lighting units were installed on the various housing estates as development continued.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Public cleansing in Amble is carried out by a staff of five, i.e. a chargehand driver and four carriers. Working on a five day week, the whole town including earth closets and outlying farms are collected weekly whilst two mornings per week are devoted to trade refuse collection. During sickness or holiday periods the staff was supplemented by members of the highways team whilst at bank holiday periods and other public holidays, the work was made up by the use of the entire highways team.

Collection is made by a diesel powered 7 cubic yard Karrier Bantam vehicle, whilst the dual-purpose diesel Karrier low loader/refuse vehicle (normally used for highway repair work) was brought into use when required.



Refuse Disposal throughout the year was carried out at a disused Stone Quarry where a system of controlled tipping is in operation. One full-time attendant was employed to deal with all refuse including that brought from surrounding areas of the Alnwick Rural District Council together with builders refuse and surplus materials from various civil engineering schemes being carried on within the district. Extensive progress was made during the year in the reclamation of the quarry and further tipping space has an estimated life of four years.

Waste paper was disposed of by burning and all condemned meat, butchers' offal and other foods were buried.

The nett cost of collection and disposal (at 31st March, 1962) amounted to £4,106 and can be summarised as follows.

Population Estimate.	Number of Weekly Collections		Method of Collection	Total Cost.
	House	Trade		
4,900	1	1	1 x 7 cu.yd. side loading vehicle.	£4,106.

#### COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL COSTS.

Total Cost	Number of Premises	Cost per Premise	Cost per head of population	Rate.
£4,106	1795	£2. 5. 9.	16/9d	1/10½d

#### PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

The duties under the Act are carried out by this Department in conjunction with the County Fire Prevention Department whose assistance and advice has always been readily available. All premises were inspected during the year, the inspections being based on the recommendations contained in the "Home Office Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions for Petrol Filling Stations, 1957".

Thirteen licences were issued during 1961 to store petroleum and/or other inflammable material.

#### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

158 visits were made by the Inspectors to slaughterhouses during the year for the purpose of meat inspection to give 100% inspection and 26 visits were made to food shops for the inspection of food unfit for human consumption.

The following table gives figures of animals slaughtered during the year within the Urban District.

	Steers	Heifers	Cows and Bulls.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs,	Rams and Ewes.	Pigs.
Number killed	354	1	2	-	1407	16	184
Number Inspected	354	1	2	-	1407	16	184
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	102	-	-	-	6	-	2
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>							
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total amount of meat condemned amounted to 10 cwts. 1 qr. 5 lbs., the majority of which was offal.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are two slaughterhouses within the district, both of which are privately owned.

During the year, the owners of the two slaughterhouses carried out extensive structural alterations and internal improvements to comply fully with the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1961 of which the Minister made 1st January, 1962 the appointed day of operation. On inspection by the Minister's representative high satisfaction was expressed at the completed works resulting in the official licensing of both premises.

The Co-operative Society's slaughterhouse was designed to cater for its Amble and Alnwick branches so that the weekly number of animals slaughtered was to be doubled from January, 1962. This has naturally resulted in greater time being devoted to meat inspection but it is anticipated that the provisions of the Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations, 1958 will now apply.

#### SLAUGHTERMEN.

Fourteen licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued during the year and of these, two required the applicants to carry out slaughtering under supervision.

#### FOOD PREMISES.

Visits were made to food premises within the district and any contraventions or deficiencies were brought to the notice of the owner or person in charge but it was not found necessary to institute proceedings for contraventions of the various Food Hygiene Regulations, Twenty three premises were licensed for the storage of pre-packed ice cream intended for sale.

All condemned food is burned or buried at the controlled tip and during the year, a total of 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. of assorted tinned foods was disposed of by this method.

#### MILK AND DAIRIES.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations are administered by the County Health Department and all dealers' licenses are issued by the County Authority. In the case of any new applications being received, the local public health inspector is asked to forward his observations on the suitability of the applicant and his premises.

Milk sampling is also carried out by the County Health Authority and a copy of the results forwarded to my office. I would express my appreciation of the County Health Inspector (Mr. D. Lister, F.A.P.H.I.) for the co-operation and advice which is always readily available.

#### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths within the Urban District.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

Water is derived from springs at Hazon and Newton-on-the-Moor, boreholes at Hazon, Hazon Ford, Morwick and Hartlaw and a deep well at Hazon, the latter according to local knowledge being originally sunk some hundreds of years ago by monks from Guyzance for the recovery of coal.



The output from these sources is pumped to Morwick where two storage reservoirs are situated having a capacity of two million gallons which supply Amble Urban District, parts of Alnwick Rural District and the R.A.F. Station at Acklington.

	Daily Average Consumption.	Yearly Total.
Acklington R.A.F.	47,450 galls.	17,319,250
Alnwick Rural District.	8,800 galls	3,212,000
Amble Urban District.	149,800 galls	54,687,000
TOTALS	206,050 galls.	75,218,250 galls.

There was no shortage of water during the year despite a low rainfall figure and all commitments were fully met. During the period July to December, a further total of 3,930 gallons was supplied to the adjacent village of Radcliffe due to Alnwick Rural District Council's inability to maintain a supply prior to their amalgamation with the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Board.

The only treatments given to the water are chlorination and "Calgon" threshold treatment. The automatic injection of these takes place at the inlet to the Morwick reservoirs at a dosage of 1 part per million for chlorine and 7 parts per million of Calgon.

Twenty two samples for bacteriological examination were taken of the 'mixed' treated water (i.e. water in supply) and of these, five samples showed a small bacteriological count although further samples invariably produced negative results.

Chemical analyses of the water in supply remained unchanged from those of the previous year, whilst due to the permanent hardness, no plumbo-solvency has even been encountered and therefore no precautions have been deemed necessary.

Discussions took place during the year for regrouping of water undertakings and representatives of Tynemouth Water Company and the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Board met the Council to consider terms and conditions of an eventual take-over. At the end of the year, the Council considered that the two terms offered by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Board would be most beneficial to the Urban District and therefore detailed negotiations were to be commenced during 1962.

There are still somehouses within the District where there is no internal water supply and the inhabitants are supplied from a standpipe in the yard. These properties are being investigated and will be the subject of a report to the Council when recommendations will be made as to the action deemed necessary.

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - 1948.

Inspections were carried out in several premises but as no up-to-date register of factories is available, accurate figures cannot at this juncture be given.

Six visits were made to mechanical factories and six visits to non-mechanical factories all of which complied with the relevant sections of the factories Act.

There are no outworkers registered within the District.

#### AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

Visits were made to seven farms within the District to secure compliance with the revisions of the Act in all cases, sanitary accommodation was available for workers and arrangements for seasonal workers were considered to be reasonable.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

This duty continued to be carried out by the Council under the provision of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. Three employees who have undergone one-day training courses, were able to carry out treatments as occasion demanded in addition to their normal duties. On receipt of complaints therefore, treatments were carried out at both private and business premises, the latter being charged on a 'time and material' basis.

The bi-annual treatment of sewers was carried out and no evidence of infestation was apparent.

Rodent Control on farms within the district was investigated and though the Council have no contracts, advice is given on request and it was noted that stocks of recommended poisons were being kept in anticipation of any infestation.

Application for membership of the Felton Rabbit Clearance Society was made and approved late in the year and the operator made a visit to the areas of allotments, caravan sites and other open spaces to ascertain and treat infestation.

Reports of foxes within the District were dealt with through the huntsman of the Percy Hunt who undertook the investigation of the complaint.

The following statistics as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, show action taken during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1961.



	Type of Property.				Agricultural.
	Non- Agricultural.				
	Local Auth- ority.	Dwelling houses (Incl. Council houses)	All other (Incl, business premises)	Total of Cols 1, 2, & 3.	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Number of properties in local authority's district.	6	1577	119	1702	17
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :-					
(a) Notification	-	41	5	46	-
(b) Survey under the Act.	-	58	11	69	3
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose )	6	428	62	496	12
4. Number of properties inspected in (2) which were found to be infested by :-					
(a) Rats (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	2	57	9	68	1
(b) Mice (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	1	10	1	12	2
5. Number of infested properties in (4) treated by local authority.	3	67	10	80	3
6. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
7. Number of 'block' control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Two cases of dysentery were notified to the Department by the Medical Officer of Health when visits were made. Arising from these cases, five specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

Houses - Public Health Acts & Housing Acts - visits.....	97
Houses - property under Notice.....	19
Complaints investigated (excuding Council House repairs).....	132
Council House Repairs,.....	272
Factories.....	73
Building operations (byelaw inspections).....	311
Drainage Work.....	152
Food Hygiene (Shops and Food Premises).....	47
Meat Inspection.....	158
Rodent Control.....	72
Refuse Tips.....	59
Petroleum Regulations.....	26
Caravan Sites - visits.....	617
Waterworks - visits.....	62
Unsound Food.....	26
Infectious Diseases.....	3
Interviews with Owners - Caravan Sites.....	487
Interviews with Owners - Housing, Improvement Grants etc.....	181

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AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT

## TABLE A

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health      Res: The Close, West Acres, Alnwick.  
Tel: Alnwick 2480  
Office: Area Health Office, Wagonway Road,  
Alnwick, Northumberland.  
Tel: Alnwick 2263

## TABLE B

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic	(Number of passengers inwards	- Nil
	(Number of passengers outwards	- Nil
Cargo Traffic	(Principal imports	- Nil
	(Principal exports	- Coal
Principal Ports from which ships arrive:-	Aberdeen (54) London (15)	Leith (15) Fraserburgh (16) and mainly British Ports



#### Section IV - Inland barge traffic

There is no inland barge traffic.

#### Section V - Water Supply

The Council, as the water undertakers, supply both the port and shipping from town mains. The water is sold to the Harbour Commissioners who are responsible for supplying the ships. Supply is carried out by means of hydrants and hosepipes. The hosepipes are kept in the stores belonging to the Harbour Commissioners and flushed before being used. There are no water boats.

#### Section VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations

##### 1. List of infected areas

The weekly Epidemiological Report of the World Health Organisation is received by this Authority and copy forwarded to the Customs Officer who receives the declarations of health coming from ports other than excepted ports. These are then forwarded to the Council Offices.

##### 2. Radio Messages

Link-up radio telephone through radio station Cullercoats to ship.

##### 3. Notification otherwise than by radio

Signals received by Coast Guard Station and communicated by telephone to Harbour Master's Office.

##### 4. Mooring Stations

Should any infectious disease exist on board, the ship is moored to the west jetty and quarantined until the appropriate steps are taken.

##### 5. Arrangements for:-

##### (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases

Isolation for infectious diseases would be provided in Walker Gate Hospital, Newcastle on Tyne.

##### (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts

Surveillance and follow up of contacts is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector.

##### (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles

Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles are carried out when required under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

#### Section VII - Smallpox

(1) Smallpox cases would be sent by ambulance to Langley Park Hospital, County Durham. Telephone: Langley Park 214.

(2) Transport would be by ambulance from the Northumberland County Council Ambulance Service.



## (3) Smallpox Consultants available:-

Dr. W. Minns, Deputy County Medical Officer, County Hall, Newcastle on Tyne.

Dr. J. Grant, Medical Officer of Health, Greenfield House, Gateshead.

Dr. H. Pearson, Dunston Hill Hospital, Gateshead.

## (4) Laboratory facilities at Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle on Tyne.

Section VIII - Venereal Disease

Available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment for venereal diseases at:-

General Hospital	- Newcastle on Tyne
Preston Hospital	- North Shields
22 Stanley Street	- Blyth

Notices are exhibited in the Public Conveniences in the town.

Section IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseasesTABLE D

No cases of infectious diseases were reported as having occurred on vessels during the voyage.

Section X - Observations on occurrence of malaria

No cases of malaria have been reported.

Section XI - Measures against ships suspected of infection with plague

No cases of suspected plague have been reported.

Section XII - Measures against rodents

Vessels inspected showed little or no signs of rodent infestation.

Arrangements available for deratting are traps or poisoning.

TABLE E

No rats were destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports, there being no evidence of rat infestation on any ships entering Amble Harbour.

TABLE F

As Amble is not a designated approved Port, this Section regarding de-ratting certificates does not apply.

Section XIII - Inspection of ships

No nuisances were found in vessels inspected.

Section XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934-1948

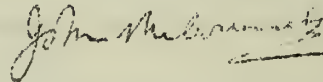
An area of the mouth of the River Coquet has been prescribed as a prohibited area for the laying of shell-fish beds or collection therefrom, in accordance with the above regulations. The prohibition has been in force since 19th November, 1946.

Section XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens

The port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

Section XVI - Miscellaneous

The Council own a mortuary which is utilised in making arrangements for the interment of the dead.



Medical Officer of Health



